

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [3861] N.E. QRP CLUB @ HOSS TRADERS
Message-ID: <199510061455.KAA13773@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

Hello Gang,

I am meeting with Jim Fitton and others at the octagon house at the Rochester Fair grounds at 10:00 e.s.t. Any and all are welcomed to stop by and say hi. We are going to discuss the next years events and plan a calendar for 1996.

Bill Acito posted a simplex frequency of 147.435 for us to hook up with each other.

See you all there.

73 de AA1IK

Ernie

de AA1IK

(Lead by example, It is much easier)
(to pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire

Canaan, NH.

()
()
()

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET

packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Tom_Jennings <jennings@eng16.rochny.uspra.abb.com>
Subject: [3862] Fox log for 10-3-95
Message-ID: <9510061517.AB07913@nms1.abb.com>

Hi QRPers and fox hunters!

Here is my Foxlog for for Tues, Oct 3:

Time Freq Call Sent/Rec Name QTH
==== =====
2004 7112 km4lt 589/589 Bill Va
2023 7112 n8va 539/579 Ron Oh
2035 7112 kc5eqc 579/449 Don Ok
2047 7042 kb9iua 569/579 Kevin Il (qro)
2058 7042 n4aox 579/569 Clay
2101 7042 w3on 539/57c Gene Al

2107 7042 k5up 529/55c Glen
 2113 7042 w5hns 318/339 Henry Tx
 2115 7042 ab5ou /54c (forgot to write his rst down,
 will look at notes and update)
 2121 7042 k9dze 519/55c Allen In
 2140 7042 w91tl 599/599 Pete Il
 2157 7042 aa0xz 159/55c Greg Mo

I had fun being the fox and even had a pile up! Sorry
 about the chirp on my sig hope to get that taken care
 of some time soon. The band was changing a lot. Some
 signals started out strong but faded out at the end.

I was running a SWAN Astro 102 with the power set to about
 2 watts and the antenna was a 40 meter quarter wave verticle
 with 8 ground radials.

Good luck to all in future hunts
 73

Tom, kv2x

 Thomas J. Jennings | Tel: (716) 273 7071
 Senior Engineer | Fax: (716) 273 7262
 ABB Industrial Systems Inc. |
 Post Office Box 22685 |
Rochester, New York 14692-2685

Internet: jennings@jennings.rochny.uspra.abb.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
 From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
 Subject: [3863] Close call
 Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951006111739.972A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

I've just read all the posts about the QRP created din on 7.040 and I
 wonder what the heck I was missing?

I heard the CY0 station running splits on LSB at 4.046 and several QRO

stations just under .040 but no pile up or other sign of Smitty, in fact... I actually gave up TWICE only to be dragged back into the shack from hell to listen for the foxy one.

I started playing around with that Ten Tec commercial receiver I bought a month ago and suddenly heard the Smitmiester loud and clear, I fumbled for the knob on the Corsair and spit out my call a couple times, glancing up at the lab-standard MFJ tuner to check the output level was at 4 watts +/- 100%.

Smitty comes back immediately with a 569 and I generously give him the same report. The fox probably was wondering where I was all night since we easily worked each other Tuesday! Jotting down the QS0, I glance up at the MFJ atomic clock and see it reads 02:59!!! JUST MADE IT!!!

whew...

73! =paul= wb8zjl

ObWB8E - Walt's dipole blew down just prior to the foxhunt in the hurricane force winds that swept through SE Michigan yesterday evening.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [3864] Q-DOPE,Etc.
Message-ID: <1995Oct06.112626.17209@abs.net>

Q-DOPE, Etc.

I agree with Chuck, K5F0. Go out and buy some Clear Fingernail Polish such as "Hard as Nails" or "Wet N Wild". Unless, of course you can get one of the ladies of the house to lend you some of their old stuff. (Free Supply). I have been using it (On Coils) for years now. The price is right and it seems to work just as well as the real thing. If you are a purist and really must have the reaall thing, Check out the GC Electronics (Not related to G&C Enterprises) product line at your local Radio-TV Repair Supply house. I have found quite a number of other magic chemicals useful in the Black Art of QRP Homebrew. GC has an enamel wire stripper that really works. You will never scrap and sand another wire again! I have also discovered another useful product at my local hobby shop. It is called ZAP-A-GAP CA+ by Pacer Technology. It is a "Super Glue" (Cyanoacrylate) used for construction of models. I use it to mount toroid cores to the PCB when building a project. Unlike many other Super Glues, it does not require a perfect contact. OBTW, it is also quite useful in

repairing that T-200 core that you just dropped on the basement floor after spending hours winding that nice antenna tuner coil. (The only core of that size that you had, by the way.)

Usual Disclaimer Applys...

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, Danny Gingell, K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

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George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [3865] FOX HUNT
Message-ID: <1995Oct06.112923.17209@abs.net>

October 6, 1995 FOX HUNT

The Fox (NA5K) was heard right on time here in Maryland. However, I was not able to get thru to him on the first round due to poor propogation. I worked WA4KAC, Walt here in Maryland at 0159z instead. Both exchanging 559 reports. I worked KG0RD, Jim (QRO) in Omaha, NE. next. @ 0233z I worked WALT, WA4KAC again and advised him that the Fox had QSY'd to 7110 and would be back in 30 minutes. (He was running NC40-A and stuck on the lower end). I went up to 7110 with my QRP + to look for the FOX again. Nothing but SSB QRM. Back to 7040 where I hear the Fox again, this time he is a good 559. He was only 239 with QSB before. I worked him at 0245z giving him a 559 and receiving a 449. I listened while many others worked him. Among those heard, were WA9PWP, K5F0, AB6DG, W3PM, K8ET, WA4KAC, N6ULU, WA6HHQ, AA0X, N2KPY, KA3EAJ, KC1GS. I also had one more quick Good Night, Nice job QSO with Smitty at 0300z as he was shutting down. I also managed to snag Chuck, K5F0 for a quick RST exchange. 449 to him and 559 to me. Ain't QRP Great? Hope to see you all again next time. Unless it is on Tuesday Night, In which case, You will find me on 7030 for SEN QRP NET at 0100z (8 pm) or 3535 at 8:30 to 9:30 (Second Half of SEN and then Michigan QRP Net.) If you can't find the fox, stop in and visit on the NETS.
QRP DX TU, Danny, K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

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George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: ddonald@vikings.onecomm.com (Dave Donaldson)
Subject: [3866] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?

> From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 16:17:31 1995
> From: okasb@shoe.mtv.gtegsc.com (Bob Okas)
> To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
> Subject: Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
> Date: Thu, 5 Oct 1995 17:03:18 EDT
>
> Michael, VE3WMB, wrote:
>
> Hi :
>
> > I recently bought a battery similar to the "Power Station" product that
> > I have seen advertised in most of the Ham Radio Magazines. This is a self
> > contained unit rated at 5A hrs with 12V, 3V, 6V, 9V outputs. It was cheap
> > too, at \$29.95 Can (\$20 off).
>
> > I seem to be having problems getting this thing to charge. I brought the
> > first one back and had it exchanged, the second one doesn't seem to want
> > to take a charge either. The instructions are very terse and I'm wondering
> > if I'm doing something stupid.
>
> < SNIP >
>
> Michael,
>
> Funny that post should show up today... I too have one of those battery
> packs, purchased at Price Club (for a *real* low price, IMA) and it was
> manufactured in the Pacific Rim. Like you, I had problems charging the

> blasted thing, even in my car. The instructions were very sparse and led
> me to experiment a bit. Here's what I found:

>

> Even at home, hooked up to a 13.8V supply, the battery wouldn't charge
> up enough to light the "Full" light. I didn't want to damage it, but even
> after 12 hours at 13.8V, I decided to up the input voltage a tad. My memory
> is vague on the exact voltage, but it was somewhere around 14.2 - 14.4V.
> After a couple of hours, it was done.

>

> Since my son ran it down over the course of the summer, it now needs another
> charge. I've got it in the car now, "precharging." Tonight, it goes on the
> the AC supply to get topped off.

>

> Bob - N3MBY

>

>

>

My story was the same, except I paid more for it. I took a power supply from a
computer, attached a jack to it and plugged in the pack. Next I adjusted the
supply to 14.4 volts (about) with the battery charging. Worked well.

Contrary to what the instructions say, car charging systems do not have the proper
voltage to fully charge them. (Maybe in China they do...).

The pack works great. I use it in radio system "Walk tests" with a ICOM r7000
hooked up to it. I then walk around with a laptop hooked the ICOM to read the
signal strength.....but thats not directly QRP related.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995

From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)

Subject: [3867] Q Dope

Message-ID: <9510061617.AA10629@garnet.inel.gov>

Well, sounds like clear finger nail polish is a viable substitute. However,
I happen to have a spare un-opened bottle of real Q-Dope (saw it in a local
TV parts store and forgot I already had one...) -- so if anyone wants the
"real stuff", you can have my spare bottle for \$3.00 to cover mailing
(probably cost me more than that, but what-the-heck). Email me direct if
you want it; note that I usually don't access my email server on weekends.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

PS - working the Fox last night reminded me of a DX pile-up but with one
important difference: I got 'em on the first call! (The "1" call sometimes
has its advantages...)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: [3868] Computer Power Supplys
Message-ID: <9510061620.AA26183@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

How much current does a computer power supply usually deal out?
Do you think I could salvage one and use it as a station power supply?

72

--
Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."

-- Albert Einstein

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: CICIORA STEVEN JOSEP <ciciora@spot.Colorado.EDU>
Subject: [3869] Re: Computer Power Supplys
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951006103355.24625D-1000000@spot.Colorado.EDU>

IBM conpatable type supplies usually put out lots (20 amps) of +5V, a few amps of +12V, and very little -5 and -12. The only problem is that you must have some minimum current (5 amps mabe?) of the primary voltage (+5V) or the entire supply won't come up. This is common with multi-output switchers (look for the _minimum_ current output spec in the digikey catalog, for example).
-Steven Ciciora

On Fri, 6 Oct 1995, Adam O'Donnell wrote:

> How much current does a computer power supply usually deal out?
> Do you think I could salvage one and use it as a station power supply?
>
> 72
>
> --

> Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
> Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
> Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG
>
> "I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or
> that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."
>
> -- Albert Einstein
>
>
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Grover Cleveland <groverc@gvgadg.gvg.TEK.COM>
Subject: [3870] Pacificon - request for info
Message-ID: <01BA93CF.DAAB9060@badger.gvg.tek.com>

(second request)

Would someone please send me some info about Pacificon and particularly the QRP activities that are planned? Is there a swap meet attached to this event? Etc. etc. etc.

tnx and 73

WT6P
QRPARCI NorCal

"Sorry - Windows made me this way!"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.CIS.McMaster.CA>
Subject: [3871] Re: Computer Power Supplys
Message-ID: <1995Oct06.124904-0400@[130.113.234.7]>

In <9510061620.AA26183@philadelphia.libertynet.org>, Adam O'Donnell wrote:
>How much current does a computer power supply usually deal out?
>Do you think I could salvage one and use it as a station power supply?
>
Adam,

Just about every computer power supply now is a switcher. They typically put out +5v/12A, +12v/4A, -12v/.5A...for a small one. There are two potential problems here:

- 1- A switcher is a noisy supply. You will likely find that there is 25Khz to 50 Khz noise on the 5v and 12v supply lines. Also a lot of harmonics of the switching frequency. These supplies often radiate a lot of R.F. noise too, like a T.V.
- 2- A switcher very often needs a minimum supply current or it will refuse to work. I have seen computers that will not power up because not enough cards (I/O, video, hard disk controller) were plugged in. A QRP rig during receive may not load the supply with enough current. Some PC supplies use the logic +5v line as a reference to regulate everything else. You'd likely not use the +5v at all... this could cause problems too.

There's a lot of different switcher designs out there..the one you have may not cause these problems, but you should be aware of potential trouble. Because of the minimum load problem, they're difficult to check out before applying power to a rig.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Bill Acito 06-Oct-1995 1305 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3872] JPS DSP's
Message-ID: <9510061702.AA25130@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Anyone else have one of these (NIR-12) that I can compare notes with? Contact via email.

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito

acito@asdg.enet.dec.com

|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life ...

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3873] Power Supplies
Message-ID: <199510061721.RAA21670@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

I agree with Glen's comments on switching power supplies. They are going to be noisy. Besides all that aren't the darn things large?

My preference is the GelCell either 4AHr or 7.5AHr.

If you go to swapmeets, look around for an old Heath PSA-9 or similar AC P/S used with the HW-7/8/9 series of QRP rigs. They work great, easy to repair, and can be repainted to match color of your most favorite rig. I have several of them and my biggest problem - deciding which connector to put on for which rig.

I want everyone to go to the same barrel connector used in the NorCal, Wilderness, OHR, and Small Wonders Labs rigs. IMHO. The AEA keyers use 'em too. + to center pin.

Of course, getting a small 14VAC transformer and building a simple P/S. I looked in chapter 11 of the 1995 ARRL Handbook. Interesting. No simple P/S. They all had special ICs that you would have to order from DigiKey or Mouser. Hmmm. I can see some articles here gang. Who volunteers? Another IQ project? Cheap and simple but effective P/S. Put the schematic(s) at the ftp site.

My \$0.02 again. N/C (no charge).

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: ddw2@Lehigh.EDU (Dah-Jyuu D. Wang)
Subject: [3874] RE:Power supplies
Message-ID: <199510061747.NAA85216@ns3-1.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> Of course, getting a small 14VAC transformer and
> building a simple P/S. I looked in chapter 11 of

> the 1995 ARRL Handbook. Interesting. No simple
> P/S. They all had special ICs that you would have
> to order from DigiKey or Mouser. Hmmm. I can
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> Put the schematic(s) at the ftp site.

> My \$0.02 again. N/C (no charge).

> dit dit

> --

> Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

> Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

How about an LM317 and some resistors and a bridge rectifier plus the
transformer K5FO suggested. It should be more than adequate for QRP purpose.

DJ, N2YKP

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995

From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [3875] Re: Power supplies

Message-ID: <95Oct6.140803edt.63606-2+2@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> How about an LM317 and some resistors and a bridge rectifier plus the
> transformer K5FO suggested. It should be more than adequate for QRP purpose.

>

> DJ, N2YKP

I have such a beast I built many moons ago. Uses an LM309K (?) and some
large-ish capacitors, but still provides too much hum. I think you really
may need to do some big-time filtering... Maybe a choke-input filter.

I used the thing to power my portable 2M rig, which worked well, but when
I use it on my Explorer the hum seems pretty bad.

73

Jim N3VXI

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995

From: Stan Skelton <:sskelton@cIn.etc.bc.ca>

Subject: [3876] Logbooks on computer

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510061108.A14741-0100000@sparky>

Subject: QSO Tracking Software

Hi all....I have been following the thread on QSO tracking software lately and decided to try a couple of Shareware versions myself.... I obtained the following 2 programs:

"logem20" by Jim Johnson N7XTY

Small, compact, memory resident, only stores callsign, first name, frequency, date, signal characteristics, and mode (CW, SSB etc)...has a matching utilities program that will search thru the database which is created and sort by call sign, date etc....
HOWEVER, I didn't get a chance to use it because it crashed when I tried to save an entry to disk???????

"PC-HAM Logbook" by Joe Kasser G3ZCZ

BIG, full featured, prints out any QSL format card or report, will do everything including cook your breakfast next morning (and tell you that your performance the night before was wonderful!) It comes with an included 50+ page instruction book (on disk).....will let you put in comments with each entry (I think that's important)... entries can also include power, tx & rx call info... do QSL card via bureau, manager, yourself, etc.... do awards, dxcc, waz, was, oblast, generic, including a generic logbook setup of your choice...
HOWEVER (you knew this was coming didn't you?) it is not for the casual computer user!...you must have Dbase (at least II) and if you don't know how to do entry level "fooling around" (I won't say programming) in Dbase, this is not the program for you.

btw...I am running DOS on a 486 33meg machine....

73's Stan...VE7SKT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: "Arjen Raateland, SYKE/YV, puh. 90-4030 0457" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
Subject: [3877] Re: RE:Power supplies
Message-ID: <01HW4SMT30UQ934REL@vyh21.vyh.fi>

>
>How about an LM317 and some resistors and a bridge rectifier plus the
>transformer K5FO suggested. It should be more than adequate for QRP purpose.
>
>DJ, N2YKP

Don't forget to connect 10 nF capacitors in parallel with each diode in the bridge. One doesn't always see them in schematic circuits for power supplies, but without them you are likely to have a lot of crud here and there on HF.

73 de Arjen, OH2ZAZ

Arjen Raateland
Suomen Ympäristökeskus / YV
--... ..-- ------ ---.. ..- ---..
Finnish Environment Agency, Helsinki, Finland
SAS Support
EMAIL: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi
tel. +358 0 4030 0457
fax +358 0 4030 0490
-.-. -.-

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: paxton@sound.net (frank paxton iii)
Subject: [3878] tnx for help on 10-turn. rcvr comparison wanted.
Message-ID: <199510061837.NAA09024@sound.net>

good day gentlemen:

first: thanks to all who responded to my request for 10-turn pot experiences. i was lucky enough to find a 10k miniature knobpot and have it running as a DIRECT READOUT on my wonder 4040. it's so KEUL to see the exact freq (+or- 1 khz) right on the clock hands.

secondly: now i got the qrp bug ! i'm curious how the receiver of say the norcal 40 or the ohr sprint2 compare to the wonder 4040? i can already hear stations i can't work, but am curious what the spectrum analyzer has to say about sensitivity on the various kits ... please advise.

ng0n

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [3879] Re: Power supplies
Message-ID: <951006144852.2100d132@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Chuck Adams wrote, in part:

>Of course, getting a small 14VAC transformer and
>building a simple P/S. I looked in chapter 11 of
>the 1995 ARRL Handbook. Interesting. No simple
>P/S. They all had special ICs that you would have
>to order from DigiKey or Mouser. Hmmm. I can
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>IQ project? Cheap and simple but effective P/S.
>Put the schematic(s) at the ftp site.

Then my (sort of) neighbor DJ, N2YKP wrote back, in part:

>How about an LM317 and some resitors and a bridge rectifier plus the
>transformer K5FO suggested. It should be more than adequate for QRP purpose.

And finally, Jim, N3VXI wrote:

> I have such a beast I built many moons ago. Uses an LM309K (?) and some
>large-ish capacitors, but still provides too much hum. I think you really
>may need to do some big-time filtering... Maybe a choke-input filter.

> I used the thing to power my portable 2M rig, which worked well, but when
>I use it on my Explorer the hum seems pretty bad.

My comments:

Sure, it makes a great project, BUT - you gotta use the right transformer. Too many time hams (myself included) try to skimp on the transformer. Any regulator needs what is called "headroom." That is, it needs to have more voltage in than it puts out. Typically the minimum is 3 volts, although there are some so-called "low-dropout" regulators that reduce this to under one volt.

The headroom must take into account the ripple on the dc applied to the regulator's input and a low ac line condition. I won't go into the math here - see any decent book or application note on the subject - BUT, a 12 or 14 volt transformer won't give you enough clean dc out to regulate to even 12 volts. And you probably want 13.8 volts or so. If you don't have the required voltage, the regulator stops working at the negative peaks of the the ripple, giving you 120 Hz hum, probably what Jim, N3VXI noted.

In another lifetime I designed power supplies for a living (including one for Clegg that put out 13.8 volts continuous at 10+ amps), so I've been through it. An xfmr with too little output will work at low current drain, but the ripple kills you at even QRP xmtr levels. Huge filter caps help somewhat, but you really need an xfmr rated at 18 volts rms out. Anybody got a good source of cheap ones?

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
Subject: [3880] Re: Power supplies
Message-ID: <199510061930.MAA16796@usr5.primenet.com>

>Date: Sat, 07 Oct 1995 12:20:33
>To: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
>From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
>Subject: Re: Power supplies

>
>As an additional point of reference, DeMaw's Qrp Notebook has a
>PS project in it. It calls for an 18V transformer.
>I just gutted a computer PS a couple of days ago and am going to check the
>secondary windings on the big transformer to see if it would be suitable
>for a PS project. Lotta other good parts in there too...

>
>
>
>

>At 02:49 PM 10/6/95 EDT, you wrote:

>>Chuck Adams wrote, in part:

>>

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>>>building a simple P/S. I looked in chapter 11 of
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>>volt.
>>
>>The headroom must take into account the ripple on the dc applied to the
>>regulator's input and a low ac line condition. I won't go into the math here
>>- see any decent book or application note on the subject - BUT, a 12 or 14
>>volt transformer won't give you enough clean dc out to regulate to even 12
>>volts. And you probably want 13.8 volts or so. If you don't have the
>>required voltage, the regulator stops working at the negative peaks of the
>>the ripple, giving you 120 Hz hum, probably what Jim, N3VXI noted.
>>
>>In another lifetime I designed power supplies for a living (including one for
>>Clegg that put out 13.8 volts continuous at 10+ amps), so I've been
through it.
>>An xfmr with too little output will work at low current drain, but the ripple
>>kills you at even QRP xmtr levels. Huge filter caps help somewhat, but you
>>really need an xfmr rated at 18 volts rms out. Anybody got a good source of
>>cheap ones?
>>
>>72/73,
>>
>>Joe E., N2CX
>>
>>
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995

From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
Subject: [3881] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
Message-ID: <199510061931.MAA16995@usr5.primenet.com>

>Date: Sat, 07 Oct 1995 09:37:35
>To: ddonald@vikings.onecomm.com
>From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
>Subject: Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
>
>I too have one of these, purchased at Target here in Phoenix. They simply
>call it a "Power Pack", found in the automotive section near the battery
>chargers
>and air pumps. Price- \$29.95... Comes with cig lighter plug to charge from
>vehicle,
>but no AC adapter. Charging input is 12VDC. I use a 15VDC, 500ma AC adapter
>in the house
>and it full charges in 6-7 hrs. I use it to power my Qrp station. Also has
>nifty light
>built into the back of the case. Unlike my Power Station, this one is only 4Ah,
>but goes for a week or two between charges (depending on use of course).
>Hope this helps.
>Mike
>NQ7K
>
>
>
>
>
>At 12:06 PM 10/6/95 EDT, you wrote:
>>
>>> From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 16:17:31 1995
>>> From: okasb@shoe.mtv.gtegsc.com (Bob Okas)
>>> To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
>>> Subject: Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
>>> Date: Thu, 5 Oct 1995 17:03:18 EDT
>>>
>>> Michael, VE3WMB, wrote:
>>>
>>> Hi :
>>>
>>> > I recently bought a battery similar to the "Power Station" product that
>>> > I have seen advertised in most of the Ham Radio Magazines. This is a self
>>> > contained unit rated at 5A hrs with 12V, 3V, 6V, 9V outputs. It was cheap
>>> > too, at \$29.95 Can (\$20 off).
>>>
>>> > I seem to be having problems getting this thing to charge. I brought the
>>> > first one back and had it exchanged, the second one doesn't seem to want
>>> > to take a charge either. The instructions are very terse and I'm wondering
>>> > if I'm doing something stupid.

```

>>>
>>> < SNIP >
>>>
>>> Michael,
>>>
>>>     Funny that post should show up today... I too have one of those battery
>>> packs, purchased at Price Club (for a *real* low price, IMA) and it was
>>> manufactured in the Pacific Rim. Like you, I had problems charging the
>>> blasted thing, even in my car. The instructions were very sparse and led
>>> me to experiment a bit. Here's what I found:
>>>
>>>     Even at home, hooked up to a 13.8V supply, the battery wouldn't charge
>>> up enough to light the "Full" light. I didn't want to damage it, but even
>>> after 12 hours at 13.8V, I decided to up the input voltage a tad. My memory
>>> is vague on the exact voltage, but it was somewhere around 14.2 - 14.4V.
>>> After a couple of hours, it was done.
>>>
>>>     Since my son ran it down over the course of the summer, it now needs
>>> another
>>> charge. I've got it in the car now, "precharging." Tonight, it goes on the
>>> the AC supply to get topped off.
>>>
>>> Bob - N3MBY
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>My story was the same, except I paid more for it. I took a power supply
>> from a computer, attached a jack to it and plugged in the pack. Next I
>> adjusted the supply to 14.4 volts (about) with the battery charging. Worked
>> well.
>>
>>Contrary to what the instructions say, car charging systems do not have
>> the proper voltage to fully charge them. (Maybe in China they do...).
>>
>>The pack works great. I use it in radio system "Walk tests" with a ICOM
>>r7000 hooked up to it. I then walk around with a laptop hooked the ICOM to
>> read the signal strength.....but thats not directly QRP related.
>>
>>
>

```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
 From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
 Subject: [3882] Computer Power Supply - TNX
 Message-ID: <9510062019.AA15334@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

Since I received SOOO much mail about Computer Power supplys and how noisy they are (I mean, you guys don't quit! :-)) How many people are on this list?)

--

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."

-- Albert Einstein

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [3883] List of rigs that work with the KC1
Message-ID: <v02130519ac9b4b018a10@[199.170.106.28]>

Thanks to help from many who have built the KC1, I now have details on how to install the KC1 in a number of different rigs. If yours is not on this list, let me know.

Full instructions available:

Wilderness/NorCal 40/40A (all revisions)
Wilderness/NorCal Sierra (both revisions)
Small Wonders Labs 40-40, etc.
Heath HW8
OHR400

Preliminary instructions available:

NorCal Cascade
Heath HW9

One that noone has tried yet that may cause trouble:

Heath HW7

This rig uses harmonics of the VFO on 20 and 15 meters, so the KC1 will

have to be connected **after** the multiplier/filter. But I don't have an HW7 schematic; if anyone has the schematic and wants help with the installation, please fax it to me.

Thanks,
Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: "michael (w.m.) babineau" <babineau@bnr.ca>
Subject: [3884] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help
Message-ID: <"14632 Fri Oct 6 16:47:44 1995"@bnr.ca>

Thanks to all those who replied to my request for help.

It seems there is some agreement that you need > 12v to charge one of these batteries. I'll try using my 13.8v supply and see how I make out.

Also I think I'll see if the place I bought it from has an AC adaptor which they sell specifically for charging this thing. I'm also very curious about what is inside so I think I haul out the screwdriver and take a peek.

Thanks again

Michael
VE3WMB

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: okasb@shoe.mtv.gtegsc.com (Bob Okas)
Subject: [3885] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
Message-ID: <9510062122.AA12370@shoe.mtv.gtegsc.com>

OK,

Here's the scoop on the "MVP" battery pack. It's made/distributed by Shinn Fu Co. of America, Kansas City, Mo. I removed the back cover to find two 6V 4AH gell cells in series. The charging circuit has a combination of 1/4 watt resistors in series/parallel to total 1 Ohm. In series with these are three paralleled 1N4000-series diodes.

I hooked up said pack to a power supply set at 14.25 volts and let it sit for several hours. I periodically check the battery voltage at the 12V cigarette lighter jack and saw it slowly rise. After about 5 hours on the supply, the "Full" light still didn't come on so I let it go overnight. To cut to the chase, I had to raise the supply voltage to 14.8V before the light would eventually come on and the battery voltage was about 13.2V.

So, using a supply voltage of 14.5 is probably a safe setting. Don't expect the battery to be fully charged by the car's electrical system.

Bob - N3MBY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [3886] need photo of KC1 for Steve's web page
Message-ID: <v02130520ac9b59f90e6a@[199.170.106.28]>

Me again,

Wondering if anyone out there might have a photo of their assembled KC1 they could scan and send to Steve Hideg for his web page? If you do, please send me e-mail and I'll send you the upload instructions, etc.

Thanks,
Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: "Bradley Mugleston" <bmugleston@dtus.com>
Subject: [3887] THANKX
Message-ID: <9509068130.AA813012158@cc2.dttus.com>

I would like to THANK everyone that answered my request for HELP. I did get the PostScript file for the Pixie2 to work and Yes although Im getting very very old I will study my code and at least get to join in in all the fun.

Brad Mugleston KB0ROL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3888] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
Message-ID: <199510062205.QAA07468@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

With 3 1N4001's in series, you have a 1.8v voltage drop right there. Virtually any battery needs a little "over head" to charge to make up for internal resistance losses, usually 0.5v or so. Thus to charge to 12v, you'd need $12v + 0.5 + 1.8 = 14.3v$ minimum. Since this battery pack consists of two 6v gell cells in series, your internal resistance is additive, implying you may need an additional 0.5v to overcome those losses, raising the minimum charge voltage to 14.8v.

The 3 1N4001's in series is mysterious, other than to intentionally provide an internal voltage drop ... like it was originally marketed with a specific charger. If you're really strapped to make 14.8v, you might consider pulling 1 or 2 of those diodes out of the circuit to remove 1.2v or so of needless drop. Keep at least one diode in the circuit; it will prevent the gel cell from rapidly discharging should your AC mains fail while charging.

Have a gell-cell weekend,
Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: bkamak@airmail.net (Bob Kmak)
Subject: [3889] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
Message-ID: <199510062352.SAA14618@server.iadfw.net>

Michael,

You might have to try the cigarette lighter anyway; or else make sure your Radio Shack charger is providing > 12 volts. Generally, you have to supply a charging voltage that is considerably higher than the battery voltage -- like 14 volts (13.8) to charge a 12 volt battery. I'd try the car charging route before taking it back...

Bob
KC5RAS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3890] Re: GEL Cell Charging Help?
Message-ID: <199510070014.AAA22347@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Paul and all,

With 3 diodes in series this will give you the capability of charging at a higher rate, but the removal of one or more diodes will not effect the voltage drop. Sorry Paul, unless I missed something.

The diodes are for protection to prevent reverse charging by someone with a homemade or unknown charger and will also act as a fuse if too much voltage applied and the current is too high. We have all done serious damage to a diode or two if we have "played" at all with electronic hardware. They are relatively cheap fuses, but I have had \$2 parts protect a \$0.05 diode too. :-) Been there done that.

Paul a good continuation of the articles in CQC newsletter. Keep up the good work.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3891] Re my post on GEL Cell charging
Message-ID: <199510070020.AAA22380@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Before anyone jumps my posting. I meant parallel. Paul was thinking series and I changed my train of thought while typing. I caught my error first. :-)

So, if diodes are in parallel you can get higher current through them but the voltage drop is the minimum of the diodes (in case they are different).

If the diodes are series, the maximum current is the minimum allowed of any of the diodes and the voltage drop is the sum

of the voltage drops of each of the diodes.

Clear?

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Wynn C C <wyn@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>
Subject: [3892] Chirp and the QRM
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951006204211.21000A-100000@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>

Tom_Jennings <jennings@eng16.rochny.uspra.abb.com> writes:

>I had fun being the Fox and even had a pile up! Sorry
>about the chirp on my sig hope to get that taken care
>of some time soon. The band was changing a lot. Some
>signals started out strong but faded out at the end.

The chirp gave a distinct signature to his transmissions. Once the chirp was connected to the call, there was no difficulty distinguishing the Fox from the hounds or for that matter the Fox from the packet QRM. Probably fewer contacts would have been made if the chirp was not there.

--All of which set me to thinking again. Is there not some way to rig the morse transmission/reception so that things like packet interference are nullified? How about transmitting with a standardized chirp, generated by some discharging capacitor time constant. Reception is then passed through a tracking filter that only locks onto a slow slewing (chirp) frequency change. For those that found the audio objectionable, their RIT could be electronically servoed and synchronized to remove the chirp.

Just using a tight bandpass, single center frequency, filter for reception and a close to pure tone for transmission doesn't seem to work, partly because the receiver AGC action looking at the packet signal, drives the QRP CW signals down in the mud, partly because the human auditory response does the same. Maybe what I am talking about here is a poor man's spread spectrum machine, only over a relatively narrow frequency range.

A chirpy CW signal is still legally a CW signal, I guess, or is it?

Any comments?

72/73,
Clay N4AOX
wyn@ornl.gov

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [3893] Re: Power Supplies
Message-ID: <951006205018_38339316@mail04.mail.aol.com>

Standardization of power plugs/sockets is a great idea, why didnt you come up with it a couple of years ago, :-)

The QRP Plus uses the barrel connector with a split center pin for less contact resistance, while running microwatts ! Thats my choice for a standard power supply connector, positive to center pin, of course.

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3894] Re: Chirp and the QRM
Message-ID: <199510070129.TAA11894@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

To make a distinctive chirp, how about just using those gell cells nobody can charge above 11v ???

(Sorry, this OJ withdrawal is worse than I thought!)

Have a good weekend, all
Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3895] Re: Power Supplies
Message-ID: <199510070131.BAA22470@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Byron,

I did come up with it years ago, but hey, I'm not the one that sets the standards. It's driven by customer demand.

OK, I'll set the standards:

1. Power connector - 2.5mm female bulkhead jack
2. Key connector - RCA phono jack
3. RF antenna connector - BNC or SO-239
4. Phone Jack - 3.5mm Stereo Jack

Optional:

5. External Iambic Paddle for builtin keyer - 3.5mm Stereo Jack

Power + to center pin.

Here's the current trend(s).

Power connectors on NorCal Rigs, Wilderness Radio, Small Wonders Lab, Oak Hills Research, ... use the 2.5mm female bulkhead jack.

RCA phono jack used by TenTec and SWL. Most external keyers have an RCA phono jack and by using a shielded stereo cable with RCA plugs on both ends you can get ready made cables. At the present time I use one of those 3.5mm stereo cables with 3.5mm Stereo plug and separate RCA plugs on the other end to connect the NorCal 40a to the AEA CK2 keyer. OHR uses the 1/4inch jack for the key and I made up a RCA plug-1/4inch plug cable just for OHR rigs.

I use PL-239 on the coax to the WM-1 and MFJ tuner. This fits without any changes to all the TenTec gear (they are in the closet), OHR gear, and anything that I put in my cases. I use a BNC--SO239 critter to hook the NorCal/SWL stuff to the coax. No problem here. A \$1.50 solution.

I use the "Walkman type headphones" so they plug direct into the NorCal stuff, Wilderness Radio, and SWL (Dave NN1G provides both mono and stereo jacks). The OHR and other radios use the 1/4" jack so I have from Radio Shack a 1/4" mono to 1/4" stereo critter and then a 1/4" stereo to 3.5mm stereo critter. Now I THINK they were about \$2 to \$3 each. Check with your local store. Now watch out 'cuz they have a 1/4" stereo to 3.5mm stereo critter too. A picture would be worth a 1,000 words here, but I don't do ASCII graphics all that well.

OK, enough already. I need to get back on the OHR 400 construction project. Film at 11.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: SHUSTER5647@delphi.com
Subject: [3896] Oak Hills Research Group Discounts
Message-ID: <01HW4VP06YXE94ICLI@delphi.com>

I was on the phone with OHR today and asked if OHR offered any group discounts to clubs or group purchase efforts. Dick said yes, a 20% discount. He said it could be any mix of kits, and he had a minimum number which I forget - I think it might be at least 10 kits.

The reason I'm sending this out to the list is that 20 percent is a lot of money. For example, the new OHR 400 four bander is a \$320 kit. With a 20% discount, that price drops to \$256 !!

I have no financial interest in OHR, but like all of us, I like a bargain.

73,

John Shuster
KC7CKP

P.S. If any group is interested in this, OHR's email is ohrqrp@aol.com.
Dick can give you the specifics.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: af840@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Chris W Brakhage)
Subject: [3897] Gell-cell
Message-ID: <9510070301.AA28978@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

GELL-CELL (Sealed lead-acid cell).

The first test of any GELL-CELL should be an open circuit voltage (OCV) measurement. Any reading under 1.8 V per cell

is an indication of damage due to overdischarge (10.8 V).

If the OCV range is between 1.8 and 1.97 V the capacity of the battery is reduced down to 40% and requires up to 30 charge and discharge cycles in order to recover.

Now to the charging that has created a lot of bandwidth:

You can select a constant voltage or current for control.

During cycle use apply 2.35 V for 50 hrs or more

2.4 V for 27 hrs

2.45 V for 14 hrs

2.5 V for 7 hrs

2.55 V for 4 hrs to recharge.

For float charge a 2.35 V is recommended (indefinite time).

A constant current of C/10 (the battery capacity/10) will return 100% capacity after theoretical 10 hrs but due to losses 12 hrs is recommended. A C/5 is more aggressive and the C/20 rate is my recommendation (24 hrs). While charging with constant current the CV (cell-voltage) will rise faster at the 90% mark 2.35 V @ C/20

2.5 V @ C/10

2.7 V @ C/5 per cell.

A charge of C/200 or less is a float charge. 73 WB5FKC ..

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995

From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com

Subject: [3898] RE: Chirp and the QRM
Message-ID: <951006230622.2101160a@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Clay,

Speaking of making a distinctive sounding signal, you don't have to make it chirp! I know a guy who took a different tack, in fact you could say he handled the problem in the time domain rather than the frequency domain. (Sorry, just a little techie humor there.)

What he did was to reshape the rise and fall times of his keying waveform. He added some capacitors and a control pot to the sequential grid block keying circuitry. That way he could adjust from a rather harsh clicky shape to something that sounded almost like a bell ringing. Of course that was easier in the hollow state days... It was instructive to listen to him in a pileup. He monitored the sound on a separate receiver and usually set it just at the verge of a ringing sound. The signal really stood out and got him replies in heavy qrm.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: JessQRP@aol.com
Subject: [3899] Loop Drawing at QRp web site
Message-ID: <951007004832_118223148@emout04.mail.aol.com>

I have downloaded a crude but clear Windows paintbrush drawing of the loop antenna and also put several xerox copies in the mail today. The drawing is crude at best but I think that it is clear enough to construct the antenna. As I have said in a previous E-mail that I finally got the antenna to work, but had to switch the transformer feed to a gamma type feed. I have also noted that the antenna is severely sensitive to hand capacitance and is a real bugger to tune. When you get it tuned, and move your hand away, bang! way out of tune. I will continue to work on it, but at least I got it working!

Best
Jess

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
Subject: [3900] Re: Power Supplies
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.951006214559.12698A-1000000@usr1.primenet.com>

Ok Chuck,

Sorry to hafta do this to ya, but on page 26 of my Norcal 40A manual it says "plug, DC power,2.1mm" not 2.5mm..Only reason I know this is because I went to my local Shack O de Radios awhile back and bought me a bag fulla connectors what LOOKED like what I needed, only to find they didn't fit too good.. Hmm.. went back and looked and they had 2 different sizes, 2.1 & 2.5 - bulkhead & cable connectors both. Got a bunch of 2.5 stuff if y'all need em.

Cheers,

Mike

NQ7K

On Fri, 6 Oct 1995, chuck adams wrote:

>

> Byron,

>

> I did come up with it years ago, but hey, I'm not the one that
> sets the standards. It's driven by customer demand.

>

> OK, I'll set the standards:

>

- > 1. Power connector - 2.5mm female bulkhead jack
- > 2. Key connector - RCA phono jack
- > 3. RF antenna connector - BNC or SO-239
- > 4. Phone Jack - 3.5mm Stereo Jack

>

> Optional:

>

- > 5. External Iambic Paddle for builtin keyer - 3.5mm Stereo Jack

>

> Power + to center pin.

>

> Here's the current trend(s).

>

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>

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> time I use one of those 3.5mm stereo cables with 3.5mm Stereo plug
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> critter to hook the NorCal/SWL stuff to the coax. No problem here.
> A \$1.50 solution.
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> NorCal stuff, Wilderness Radio, and SWL (Dave NN1G provides both
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> but I don't do ASCII graphics all that well.
>
> OK, enough already. I need to get back on the OHR 400
> construction project. Film at 11.
>
> dit dit
> --
> Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
> Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: Mike Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
Subject: [3901] Re: Oak Hills Research Group Discounts
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.951006220353.12698B-1000000@usr1.primenet.com>

20% is pretty substantial; I could go for a 400, anyone else
interested?

Mike
NQ7K

On Fri, 6 Oct 1995 SHUSTER5647@delphi.com wrote:

> I was on the phone with OHR today and asked if OHR offered any group
> discounts to clubs or group purchase efforts. Dick said yes, a 20%
> discount. He said it could be any mix of kits, and he had a minimum
> number which I forget - I think it might be at least 10 kits.
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> The reason I'm sending this out to the list is that 20 percent is a
> lot of money. For example, the new OHR 400 four bander is a \$320 kit.
> With a 20% discount, that price drops to \$256 !!
>

> I have no financial interest in OHR, but like all of us, I like a bargain.
>
> 73,
>
> John Shuster
> KC7CKP
>
> P.S. If any group is interested in this, OHR's email is ohrqrp@aol.com.
> Dick can give you the specifics.
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: bobhigh@primenet.com (Bob Hightower)
Subject: [3902] Logbooks on computer
Message-ID: <199510070537.WAA21294@usr3.primenet.com>

Subject: QSO Tracking Software

Hi all....I have been following the thread on QSO tracking software lately and decided to try a couple of Shareware versions myself.... I obtained the following 2 programs:

"logem20" by Jim Johnson N7XTY

Small, compact, memory resident, only stores callsign, first name, frequency, date, signal characteristics, and mode (CW, SSB etc)...has a matching utilities program that will search thru the database which is created and sort by call sign, date etc....
HOWEVER, I didn't get a chance to use it because it crashed when I tried to save an entry to disk???????

"PC-HAM Logbook" by Joe Kasser G3ZCZ

BIG, full featured, prints out any QSL format card or report, will do everything including cook your breakfast next morning (and tell you that your performance the night before was wonderful!) It comes with an included 50+ page instruction book (on disk).....will let you put in comments with each entry (I think that's important)... entries can also include power, tx & rx call info... do QSL card via bureau, manager, yourself, etc.... do awards, dxcc, waz, was, oblast, generic, including a generic logbook setup of your choice...
HOWEVER (you knew this was coming didn't you?) it is not for the casual computer user!...you must have Dbase (at

least II) and if you don't know how to do entry level
"fooling around" (I won't say programming) in Dbase, this
is not the program for you.

btw...I am running DOS on a 486 33meg machine....

73's Stan...VE7SKT

73,
Bob Hightower KI7MN NorCal 1228, QRP ARCI 8918

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca (Paul Erickson)
Subject: [3903] HW-8 question
Message-ID: <9510070537.AA05471@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

Has anyone considered replacing the LM3900? I realize that pin compatability
is at least one issue.

cheers, Paul

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: bkmak@airmail.net (Bob Kmak)
Subject: [3904] Re: Oak Hills Research Group Discounts
Message-ID: <199510071051.FAA09471@server.iadfw.net>

>
> 20% is pretty substantial; I could go for a 400, anyone else
>interested?
>Mike
>NQ7K
>>

I'd be interested too...

Bob
KC5RAS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: PArland@aol.com
Subject: [3905] Stealth Antennas
Message-ID: <951007073210_118305449@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang:

Couldn't resist getting into this discussion. I loved KT3A's description of the "Toilet Trout" antenna! Talk about getting down and dirty!

Here's a few suggestions that I have tried, or know of others using with some success:

1. Half-size G5RV fed with 300 Ohm open wire ladder line in the attic....stapled to the apex of the rafters, running the dipole legs (one down each rafter) to just above the ceiling joists and then continuing the length of the attic until running out of wire. Tie off the ends with nylon or Keflar (tm) rope. (I used this antenna in a USAF base housing apartment in England and worked 85 countries with 2 watts or less!).
2. Cushcraft makes a multi-band rotatable dipole that you can hang from your attic rafters or ceiling beams, feed it with RG-8X and you can get on 20-10 meters, 20 & 30, too, if you have the room and buy the bigger antenna.
3. My neighbor, N3PBV, recently resingled and resided his house (vinal siding...don;t try this with aluminum siding). His XYL (also a ham but extremely vehement about "no antennas on the house or in the yard") was hasseling him about antennas. Soooooooo, David ran #10 AWG wire stripped out of Romex (tm) under the soffits and around the edges of his roof!. Feeds it like an end fed wire with a tuner and counter poise. Modeled on ElNec it doesn't look too bad, actually! Gets him on 80 -10 meters and the XYL doesn't even know its there!
4. Rain gutters...blah, blah, blah....they work as long as they aren't grounded. Beats not getting on the air at all.
5. #10 or #12 AWG (Romex, again) around the inside of the shack, stapled to the edge where the ceiling meets the walls.....fed at the center with 300 ohm twinlead from R-S thru a tuner. This works (for above ground shacks), again not very efficient, but it beats a sharp stick in the eye.
6. Then there is always the Hustler mobile whip or Hamstick single-band antennas that can be clamped onto a balcony railing or window sill and used at night or only when you want to get on the air. Don't forget a couple of counterpoise radials.

Hope this helps.

73 rich

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: GAMBC@info.isbiel.ch
Subject: [3906] need info
Message-ID: <79A291831B9@novus.info.isbiel.ch>

I'd like to know if there aren't any Clubs of HAM-Radio (qrp,...) in the area of Palo Alto. I hope to get into touch with ham-radio people because I'll be there for about 5 months.
How oft and where do the members of HAM Clubs have meetings?

Where from can I get the form 610?

Please do excuse my knowledge of your language - I hope it will be better after my studies in the USA.

Many thanks

73 de HB90BG

Chris Gamboni
CH-6533 LUMINO
G-QRP# 8905

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: PA3ASC@bonny.hol.nl (Mike Perry)
Subject: [3907] Re: Chirp and the QRM
Message-ID: <199510071327.0AA24575@bonny.hol.nl>

From: Wynn C C <wyn@stc06.ctd.ornl.gov>
From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
> A chirpy CW signal is still legally a CW signal, I guess, or is it?
> Any comments?
> 72/73,
> Clay N4AOX
> wyn@ornl.gov

Well, not really. The radar people would call it pulsed frequency modulation.

73
Regards,
Mike Perry. [e-mail :- PA3ASC@mailbox.hol.nl]
[-----

"The more memory you provide a computer programmer,
the more of it he fritters away." (unknown software guru, 1967)

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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Oct 7 10:25:00 1995
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [3908] Re: Computer Power Supply - TNX
Message-ID: <951007094926_38606530@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Adam,

Just noted your thread. Hadn't had time to read it until now.

One suggestion that I have NOT seen in the thread so far.

Check out Notebook Computer power supplies. The one for my notebook puts out 19 volts DC at 1.5 Amps. Small, and all you would need is a three terminal regulator in a small metal box to regulate down to 13.6 volts. There you could also put a couple of parts to knock down any switching components that got around the three terminal regulator.

Hope this helps.

72
Ed